

REMARKS

The specification is amended to insert the priority claim, which claim was earlier presented in an Application Data Sheet (ADS). A supplement ADS is submitted herewith.

No new matter is added.

This communication is in response to the Notice Regarding Benefit/Priority Claim(s) ("Notice") mailed December 17, 2004 in the above-referenced application. The Notice states that Applicants submitted a benefit claim to a prior-filed non-provisional application and improperly indicated that the prior-filed application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. §371. The Notice then indicates that Applicants should submit an amendment (or revised Application Data Sheet) to correct this error.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Notice appears to be in error. Applicants can find no reference that indicates that a priority application is a national phase application under 35 U.S.C. §371. Applicants intended to indicate that the present application claims priority as follows:

- This application (USSN 10/825,858, filed Apr. 16, 2004) is
1. a continuation of International Application No. PCT/CA03/00571, filed April 23, 2003, which application designates the U.S. and is published in English, and which application is a continuation-in-part of International Application No. PCT/CA02/01550, filed October 17, 2002, which application designates the U.S. and is published in English;

This application (USSN 10/825,858, filed Apr. 16, 2004) is also:

2. a continuation-in-part of International Application No. PCT/CA02/01550, filed October 17, 2002, which application designates the U.S. and is published in English; which application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/329,506, filed October 17, 2001.

However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have amended the specification to reflect this language above, and further submit herewith an Application Data Sheet (ADS).

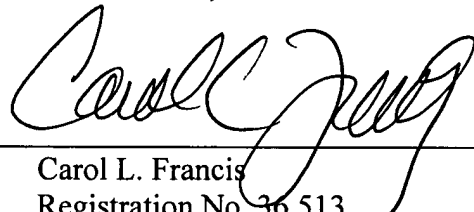
Should the Examiner find any error with this priority claim, Applicants would be grateful if he would contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Conclusion

No fees are believed due in connection with this communication, However The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number SMAR-036.

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Respectfully submitted,
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